



Committee On Finance

Max Baucus, Ranking Member

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Baucus Praises Legislation Preventing Taxation Of Internet *Senator Says Internet Should Be Kept Free of Taxes*

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) Today, U.S. Senator Max Baucus, Ranking Member of the Senate Finance Committee, applauded the Senate passage of S. 150, the Internet Tax Freedom Act. The legislation passed today will impose a moratorium on taxation of Internet access by states until 2007. Baucus has led the debate to keep the Internet tax free.

"Keeping the Internet free from taxes is key to keeping it accessible for all," Baucus said. "The Internet is an important tool for creating good high paying jobs. I applaud the passage of this bill."

The bi-partisan bill was able to pass the Senate after two minor changes were adopted including the reduction of the number of years for Wisconsin's grandfather clause and exempting line access fees from the moratorium.

Baucus emphasized the Internet Tax Freedom Act is important for keeping communication services affordable in isolated rural areas. In addition, Baucus noted that the bill protects universal service and E-911.

"This bill continues to protect universal service, and E-911 fees, that are important to Montana and other rural states," Baucus said. "These programs ensure that rural communities across America continue to have access to crucial communications and public safety initiatives."

The House of Representatives is expected to take up the bill tomorrow.